



# The Pipeline

## TEN-URE Convention Coming in May

By: Mark Rosen, Director, Division of Personnel

The annual TEN-URE Convention will be held Wednesday, May 22, 2002 to Friday, May 24, 2002.

Employees in the Cabinet for Families and Children who wish to attend this convention and participate in the social activities must use their own annual or compensatory leave. Employees will be allowed to code attendance at any of the sessions they attend as regular working hours.

Travel time to the convention can be charged as regular working hours if travel is within the regular workday. **Overtime cannot be accumulated for travel time.** Time outside of attendance at the sessions or workday travel must be charged to annual or compensatory leave.

## Kentuckians to be Trained on Dangers of Shaking Infants

*By Mike Jennings*

Head trauma is the most frequent cause of permanent damage or death among abused infants and children, and Shaken Baby Syndrome accounts for a significant number of those cases. Yet, most people are unaware of the dangers associated with shaking an infant.

The Cabinet for Families and Children, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, Kosair Children's Hospital and the State Interagency Council have sponsored four regional training sessions aimed at educating citizens on the dangers of shaking a baby. The next training sessions will take place June 1 in Madisonville and June 24 in Hazard.

The training is free, but space is limited to 50 participants at each site. To register for one of the training sessions,

contact Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky by phone at (859) 225-8879 or by e-mail at <mailto:arogers@pcaky.org>.

To further inform the public about the dangers of shaking a baby, all participants in the training sessions will be asked to conduct at least five additional training sessions in their home communities during the coming year.

Dr. Betty Spivack, a forensic pediatrician with the state medical examiner's office and one of the expert trainers, says shaking can be devastating and even fatal to an infant.

The child's still-forming brain is soft and bounces back and forth in the skull, causing swelling and brain damage. Shaking can also cause spinal injuries because the infant's neck muscles are too weak to support the head.

About 25% of babies severely injured from having been shaken die in the first week. Nearly all the rest are left with permanent neurological damage.

The trainers will also include: Peggy Arvin and JeanMarie Piascek, who are registered nurses with the Cabinet for Families and Children; Deb Williams and Elaine Evans from the Division of Clinical Forensic Medicine at the University of Louisville; and Rashmi Adi-Brown from Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky.

The Anthem Foundation, Junior League of Lexington, Cabinet for Families and Children and Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky provided funding for the training.

## Kids Are Worth It!

Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky proudly presents the 6th Annual Kids Are Worth It! Conference. The Conference will be held September 16-18 at Marriott's Griffin Gate Resort in Lexington. For more information, call 1-800-CHILDREN.

May 10, 2002  
Volume 2002, Issue 16

## Inside this Issue:

### TEN-URE Convention Coming in May

### Kentuckians to be Trained on Dangers of Shaking Infants

### Kids Are Worth It!

### New Sex Offender Alert Line Designed To Increase Public Awareness

### May is Older Americans Month



## New Sex Offender Alert Line Designed To Increase Public Awareness

Contact: Lt. Lisa Rudzinski: (502) 695-6344

Gov. and Mrs. Patton announced a new program on April 30 that will help parents throughout the state protect their children as well as provide adults with vital information regarding convicted sexual offenders: the Kentucky Sex Offender Alert Line. Sponsored by the Kentucky State Police in cooperation with the Department of Corrections and the Governor's Office for Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Services, the program provides up-to-date, real time information regarding the release of registered sex offenders into local communities.

"When we try to protect our children and our communities, ignorance is our enemy," said Patton. "The Sex Offender Alert Line is a weapon against ignorance. In my judgment, it provides the first meaningful community notification program in our state."

Kentucky First Lady Judi Patton also emphasized the importance of the program, noting that many convicted sex offenders do repeat their crimes. "When we in public service talk about getting tough on crime, there is no group of offenders we mean more than sexual offenders," she said. The alert line is an easy way for parents, school personnel, day care workers and any citizen to have an impact on crime.

According to Col. Linda Mayberry, deputy commissioner of the Kentucky State Police, using the alert line takes just a few minutes and is easy. "Simply dial 1-866-564-5652. The call is toll free and can be placed 24 hours a day. Then provide your telephone number and up to three zip codes."

When the Kentucky State Police receive notice that a registered sex offender is moving into the zip code area that you entered, you will receive a notification call which will direct you to the Kentucky State Police Sex Offender Registry at <http://kpsor.state.ky.us> for

more information, Mayberry explained. The calls will be attempted every two hours for a 24-hour period beginning at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m. Calls will not be made between the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to prevent children from receiving the call. The notification is capable of being left on a telephone answering machine.

"It is not necessary to own a computer in order to register for and use the Sex Offender Alert Line," added Mayberry, "Free Internet access is available at all public libraries."

"The Kentucky State Police encourage all citizens of the Commonwealth to register for this service. Be safe. Be informed."

Gov. Patton said State Police are "providing vital information that just may save a child from being harmed. All you have to do is make one telephone call. It may be the most important telephone call you ever make."

## May is Older Americans Month

Contact: Tishia Rawlins, (502) 564-6930 or Barbara Gordon, (502) 564-6930



People around Kentucky will be wearing gold ribbons and participating in special events this month in observation of Older Americans Month. Gov. Paul E. Patton proclaimed May as Older Americans Month to honor the more than 672,905 Kentuckians who are 60 years old and older.

Older Americans Month is an annual national observance. The 2002 theme, *America: A Community for All Ages*, acknowledges the promise and the challenges posed by our rapidly increasing multi-cultural and multi-generational aging population.

"It is important to salute the contributions of older Kentuckians while renewing our commitment to

improve the quality of life of Kentucky's elderly citizens," said Gov. Patton in the proclamation.

"There are a variety of services available for older Kentuckians," said Jerry Whitley, executive director of the Cabinet for Health Services' Office of Aging Services. Aging Services provides assistance for older Kentuckians through contracts with area agencies on aging in the area development districts.

Here are some sources of help for older people:

- Senior citizens' centers provide a place where people can meet with their friends, enjoy a nutritious meal and participate in programs including health screenings;
- Adult day-care centers offer special care for people who are frail;
- Alzheimer's day-care programs help people with dementia;
- The Kentucky Homecare Program assists people 60 and older at risk of going to a nursing home;
- The Senior Community Service Employment Program serves people 55 years and older who have incomes below 125 per cent of the poverty level - \$11,075;
- The Kentucky State Health Insurance Assistance Program answers questions about Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care insurance and other public benefits; and
- The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program offers assistance to nursing home residents.

For more information about these services or Older Americans Month activities, contact your local senior citizens center or area agency on aging.

**Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging** is your information source for Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Nicholas, Powell, Scott and Woodford counties. Call (859) 269-8021 or 1-800-648-6056 and ask for Peggy Chadwick.